

SENATE BILL 1049
By Fowler

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 10, Chapter 7, Part 5, relative to public records.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 10-7-503, is amended by deleting subsection (c) in its entirety and inserting a new subsection as follows:

(c)(1) Except as provided in § 10-7-504(g) and this section, all law enforcement personnel records shall be open for inspection as provided in subsection (a); however, whenever the personnel records of a law enforcement officer are inspected as provided in subsection (a), the custodian shall make a record of such inspection and provide notice, within three (3) days from the date of the inspection, to the officer whose personnel records have been inspected:

- (A) That such inspection has taken place;
- (B) The name, address and telephone number of the person making such inspection;
- (C) For whom the inspection was made; and
- (D) The date of such inspection.

(2) Any person making an inspection of such records shall provide such person's name, address, business telephone number, home telephone number, driver license number or other appropriate identification prior to inspecting such records.

(3) Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, personal information of firefighters, law enforcement officers and support personnel and emergency medical technicians shall be treated as confidential unless an employee expressly authorizes the release of such information. Such personal information includes home addresses, home telephone numbers, social security numbers, names of family members, photographs and any other information of a personal nature unrelated to an employee's performance of the employee's duties for the law enforcement agency which, if released, could pose a threat to the safety of an employee or an employee's immediate family or household members. For the purposes of this paragraph, "support personnel" shall mean employees of a law enforcement agency who have access to any confidential information maintained by the agency or by any other law enforcement agency.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2003, the public welfare requiring it.